

Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP)



May 2009

Funding Availability

- **\$1.5 Billion one-time appropriation**
- **\$4,870,830 potentially awarded to Louisville Metro for the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP).**

Eligible Grantees

- States (Total of 51, including Puerto Rico)
- Metropolitan Cities (337 Total) and Urban Counties (148 Total)
- 540 Total HPRP Grantees

Eligible Subgrantees

- Local Government Grantees may provide HPRP funds for projects operated:
 - By their own agencies;
 - by other local governments; and
 - by private non-profit organizations.

Eligible Activities

- There are 4 primary “pillars” for HPRP projects:
 - A. *Financial Assistance* (short- and medium-term rental and utility assistance)
 - B. *Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services* (case management, outreach, housing placement, legal services)
 - C. *Data Collection and Evaluation* (HMIS), and
 - D. *Administration* (5% of the grant)

Eligible Activities-cont.

A. Financial Assistance

- HPRP Eligible Activities are intentionally focused on *Housing*-financial assistance to help pay for housing or services to keep people in housing or to find new housing.
- HPRP assistance is NOT intended to provide long-term support for program participants—assistance should be focused on housing stabilization.

Eligible Activities-cont.

A. Financial Assistance includes Rental Assistance

- Short- and Medium-Term Rental Assistance (up to 18 months) can be used to allow individuals and families remain in their existing rental units or to help them obtain and remain in rental units they select.
- No HPRP client may receive more than 18 months of assistance under HPRP.
- All HPRP clients must be evaluated every 3 months to certify eligibility.

Eligible Activities-cont.

- Rental assistance may also be used to pay up to 6 months of rental arrears for eligible program participants (allowing the HPRP participant to *remain* in the housing unit for which the arrears are being paid).
- The rental assistance paid can not exceed the actual rental cost (HUD's standard of rent reasonableness).

Eligible Activities-cont.

- Financial Assistance Includes Security and Utility Deposits
- Financial Assistance Includes Utility Payments (for up to 18 months of utility payments, including up to 6 months of utility payments in arrears for each program participant).

Eligible Activities-cont.

- Financial Assistance Includes Moving Cost Assistance (including reasonable moving costs, such as truck rental, hiring a moving company, or short-term storage fees).
- Financial Assistance Includes Motel and Hotel Vouchers (up to 30 days if no appropriate shelter beds are available and subsequent rental housing is not yet available).

Eligible Activities-cont.

- **B. Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services**

Case Management

- HPRP funds may be used for activities for the arrangement, coordination, monitoring, and delivery of services related to meeting the housing needs of program participants and helping them obtain housing stability.

Eligible Activities-cont.

Outreach

- HPRP funds may be used for services or assistance designed to publicize the availability of HPRP programs.

Eligible Activities-cont.

Housing Search and Placement

- HPRP housing search and placement funds may be used for services or activities designed to assist individuals or families in locating, obtaining, and retaining suitable housing (may include tenant counseling, securing utilities, and outreach to property owners).

Eligible Activities-cont.

Legal Services

- HPRP funds may be used for legal services to help people stay in their homes.
- Legal services related to mortgages are not eligible.

Eligible Activities-cont.

Credit Repair

- HPRP funds may be used for services that are targeted to assist program participants with critical skills related to household budgeting, money management, and resolving personal credit issues.

Eligible Activities-cont.

C. Data Collection and Evaluation

- The Recovery Act requires that data collection and reporting for HPRP be conducted through the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).
- Eligible costs include the purchase of HMIS software and/or user licenses, leasing or purchasing computer equipment, costs associated with data entry and staffing associated with the operation of HMIS.

Eligible Activities-cont.

D. Administration

- No more than 5% of the total HPRP grant to the Grantee may be spent on HPRP Administration.
- Administration costs may be used for pre-award administrative costs, accounting for the use of the grant funds, preparing HPRP Quarterly reports and the APR report to HUD, and costs related to administering the grant after the award.

Eligible Program Participants

- Homeless persons and those at risk of becoming homeless are eligible if *they meet the following 3 criteria:*
 1. Any individual or family receiving rental assistance must have at least an initial consultation with a case manager to determine needs.

Eligible Program Participants-cont.

- 2. HPRP Households must be at or below 50 percent of the Area Median Income (AMI).
- 3. HPRP Households must meet BOTH of the following circumstances:
 - NO appropriate subsequent housing options have been identified AND
 - The household lacks the financial resources and support networks needed to obtain immediate housing or remain in existing housing.

Eligible Program Participants-cont.

- For HPRP evaluation it is helpful to remember the defining question to ask when evaluating a client for HPRP assistance:

“Would this individual or family be homeless BUT for this assistance?”

Expenditure Deadlines

- All HPRP Grantees must spend at least 60% of HPRP funds within 2 years of the grant agreement.
- 100% of HPRP funds have to be spent within 3 years of the grant agreement.
- HUD may recapture unexpended funds in violation of the 2-year expenditure requirement.

Reporting Requirements

- Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) has to be used to track *all* HPRP clients.
- Grantee will have to update the IDIS system for all HPRP drawdowns and expenditures.
- Quarterly reports for all HPRP programs will be required to HUD, along with an Annual Progress Report (APR) once a year.

HPRP Plan for Louisville Metro

- The Financial Assistance portion of HPRP (rental assistance, utility assistance, security deposits, etc.) will be provided through the 8 Neighborhood Place locations.
- Approximately \$2.39 million will be used in conjunction with the existing Emergency Financial Assistance (EFA) program currently offered through the 8 Neighborhood Place locations.

HPRP Plan for Louisville Metro-cont.

- Approximately \$2.03 million will be awarded to non-profit service agencies for Housing Relocation and Stabilization Services.
- The awards will be determined through a competitive Request For Proposal (RFP) application process awarded through the HPRP Grants Committee.

HPRP Plan for Louisville Metro-cont.

- The HPRP Grants Committee will be lead by The Coalition for the Homeless; and will be comprised of non-applying local stakeholders, foundation representatives, and key staff from Louisville Metro Housing and Family Services.
- Approximately \$200,000 of HPRP funds will be awarded to the community for HMIS enhancement (including data entry functions).

HPRP Plan for Louisville Metro-cont.

- 5% of the HPRP grant will be awarded to the Grantee for program administration (totaling approximately \$243,000).
- Written Public Comments regarding HPRP will be accepted no later than Tuesday May 12, 2009 at 5pm.

- **The complete HPRP application is due to HUD by May 18, 2009.**
- **All written HPRP Public Comments should be addressed to:**
 - **Louisville Metro Government, Department of Housing and Family Services
810 Barret Ave., Office #318
Louisville, KY 40204**